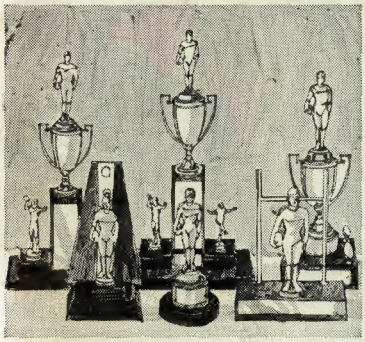
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
12¢
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
NOV.
NO. 206
BATMAN
WALKS THE LAST MILE
THIS IS THE...END!

HEY GUYS!
WE'RE GETTING READY TO ENTER THE FORD-NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PUNT, PASS & KICK COMPETITION!
IF YOU'RE BETWEEN 8 AND 13 YOU CAN ENTER TOO! IT'S FREE! IT'S FUN!

LOOK AT THE TROPHIES YOU COULD WIN! EVERY FORD DEALER WILL MAKE 18 LOCAL AWARDS.

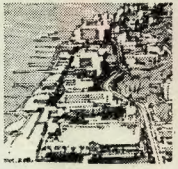
You compete only with kids your own age, so you've got a great chance to win a handsome trophy! And so many other trophies, for other wins on the way to the National Finals! More than 70,000 trophies altogether! Wow!



FREE TRIPS, TOO!

Win a District Competition and you get a trip to an NFL city! Plus a complete uniform free to compete in at half-time.

Win a Division Competition and you and your parents go on an all-expense-paid trip to Miami, Florida where you will compete in the PP&K finals at the Orange Bowl during half-time of the big NFL Runner-Up Bowl Game.

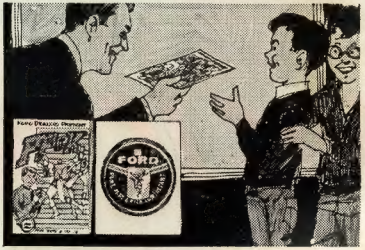


Following the finals you and your parents will travel to Washington, D.C. for the Tour of Champions.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO TO ENTER.

Just take your mom, dad or legal guardian to your participating Ford Dealer and sign up! It's that easy!

LOOK WHAT YOU GET FOR ENTERING.



Just for signing up you get a swell PP&K pin to wear . . . AND a Punt, Pass & Kick TIPS BOOK by the big NFL stars, filled with hints to help you win. Free!

HURRY! REGISTRATION CLOSES OCTOBER 4TH!

TAKE MOM, DAD OR LEGAL GUARDIAN TO YOUR PARTICIPATING FORD DEALER TODAY!

Ford

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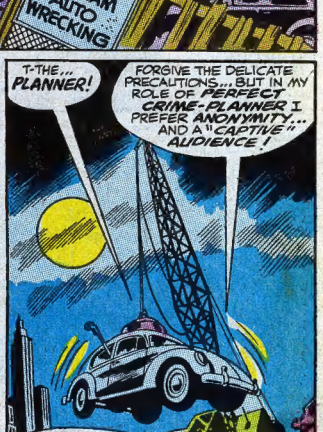
AND THIS...IS THE BEGINNING!

NIGHT...ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF GOTHAM CITY...
BIOZY
LIKE...KIN WE TRUST THIS SWINGER, CHIEF SITTIN'-IN?
THE PLANNER IS RE-AL BOSS, LI'L MOOSE!
MAN...FOR A 50% CUT OF TH' TAKE, HE EARNS HIS REP, BIG SQUAT!
GOTHAM AUTO WRECKING


T-THE... PLANNER!
FORGIVE THE DELICATE PRECAUTIONS... BUT IN MY ROLE OF PERFECT CRIME-PLANNER I PREFER ANONYMITY... AND A "CAPTIVE" AUDIENCE!
I DEMAND COMPLETE DEVOTION TO MY DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS... THERE MUST BE NO SLIP-UPS!

STORY: FRANK ROBBINS
ART: IRV NOVICK & JOE GIELLA

A FAR-OUT SETTING FOR A PERFECT CRIME-PLOT, eh, BATMANIACS?

BUT...AS WE SAID—THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF...

"BATMAN WALKS THE Last Mile!"

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THE NEXT NIGHT... IN THE MANAGER'S OFFICE OF THE GOTHAM GRAND HOTEL...
IT HAPPENED DURING LAST EVENING'S CHARITY BALL, BATMAN! THE CROOKS CLEANED OUT THE ENTIRE PROCEEDS OF THE ORPHANS' FUND-- WITHOUT LEAVING A CLUE!
A CLEAN SWEEP, COMMISSIONER GORDON.. EVIDENTLY PLANNED BY A MASTER CRIMINAL! BUT THEY ALL SLIP UP...SOMEWHERE!
MAYBE NOT, THIS TIME, BATMAN! REAL SLICK... PROFESSIONAL! MUST'VE USED GLOVES... NO FINGERPRINTS--
...AND NO FOOT-PRINTS, ROBIN! COULD'VE WORN STOCKINGS--OR-- WAIT A MINUTE!
WHAT IS IT?
TINY, GLISTENING PARTICLES...GROUND INTO THE ASPHALT TILE FLOOR! LIKE BY THE WEIGHT OF A HEAVY MAN!
COULD THIS BE THE BREAK WE NEED, BATMAN? WHAT ARE THOSE...
I CAN'T TELL, COMMISSIONER... TILL I ANALYZE--
ROBIN! DON'T MOVE!
A LONG BLACK HAIR! APPEARS TO BE STICKY!... AS IF HEAVILY GREASED! EXPLAINS WHY IT STUCK TO YOUR BOOT WHILE WALKING AROUND, ROBIN...
A LARGE HEAVY WOMAN... WITH GREASY HAIR--OUR CULPRIT, BATMAN?
FIRST AXIOM OF SLEUTHING, ROBIN BOY...NEVER JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS! COME...WE'LL CHECK THESE OUT IN OUR BATMOBILE PORTABLE CRIME-LAB!
12

MOMENTS LATER... OUTSIDE...
FORGET THE "cherchez la femme", ROBIN! THE ELECTRON-MICROSCOPE REVEALS... THIS HAIR WAS ORIGINALLY BLONDE--DYED BLACK!
AND SINCE "GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES"... HARDLY WORTH THE SWITCH FOR A WOMAN!
GRAND HOTEL
SECOND, IT'S A 100TH-INCH THICKER THAN A SPECIMEN FEMALE HAIR... WHICH HAS A SPLIT END, INDICATING FREQUENT BRUSHING AND GROOMING!
OUR SUSPECT IS A MAN.. WITH A REAL MESSY MOP! USES GREASE TO KEEP IT DOWN... SOMEWHAT LIKE AN INDIAN USES BEAR-GREASE!
YOU MEAN..?
SPECTRUM-ANALYSIS INDICATES THE GLISTENING PARTICLES TO BE PINACEOUS COLOPHONY... OR SIMPLY--ROSIN! COMMONLY USED BY DANCERS... OR... MUSICIANS!
CAN WE NARROW IT DOWN?
THOSE TINY LINTLIKE FRAGMENTS CLINGING TO THE STICKY ROSIN... ALMOST LIKE SOFT ANIMAL SKIN--LEATHER!
WHICH RULES OUT DANCERS! BALLETISTS WEAR SATIN BOX-TOES... OTHERS METAL TAPS... HARD LEATHER...
...THIS IS MORE LIKE SOFT DEERSKIN... AS USED IN INDIAN MOCCASINS!
INDIANS... ON THE WARPATH IN GOTHAM CITY? YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING...

OR A MUSICIAN... WEARING INDIAN MOCCASINS! BOUND TO PICK UP SOME CH'IN HIS SOLES WHERE HE'S WORKING! COMMISSIONER... THERE WAS A BAND AT THIS BALL...?
WHY--YES! A COMBO-TRIO CALLED "CUSTER'S LAST STAND"! THEY TOG UP AS... INDIANS!
THAT'S OUR MAN... A HIPPIE MUSICIAN! PROBABLY A BASS PLAYER! WHERE DO THEY HANG OUT REGULARLY?
AT "THE DOOR-WAY"! BUT... ACCORDING TO WITNESSES... NONE OF THEM LEFT THE STAND DURING THE TIME OF THE ROBBERY!
SHORTLY-- AT THE DISCOTHEQUE...
LOOK... BIG SQUAT! BATMAN... AND... UGH... ROBIN!
DOUBLE UGH! ME NO LIKE-UM, CHIEF SITTIN'-IN... GOTTA TUNE OUT TH' SCENE!
COVER ME, LI'L MOOSE!
TAKE 'EM ON THE LEFT, ROBIN! I'LL GRAB THE BASS-BULLY..!
AS BIG SQUAT MAKES HIS BREAK, LI'L MOOSE TURNS UP HIS ELECTRIC-GUITAR AMPLIFIER FULL VOLUME AND STRIKES A MIGHTY CHORD..
SQREEE
TWANG
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

WORLD'S FASTEST TRAIN

The "New Tokaido" train running between Tokyo and Osaka, Japan, is the fastest train service in the world. Part of Japanese National Railways, this train makes the 320.2 mile run in 3 hours 10 minutes, at an average speed of more than 101 m.p.h. Each train is made up of 12 cars, weighs 80 tons and can reach a top speed of 155 m.p.h. *The "New Tokaido" is powered by motors with the energy of 11,943 horsepower.*

WORLD'S FASTEST KID

The Cheerios Kid gets his energy from Cheerios. Like you, he needs a fresh supply of go-power every day. And, a breakfast with Cheerios and milk is packed with muscle-building protein and energy for go-power. Get yourself Go. Get Cheerios!

GENERAL MILLS

©G.M.

THE AWESOME AMPLIFIED CLAMOR... ABOVE THE THRESHOLD OF PAIN... BRINGS THE DYNAMIC DUO TO A QUIVERING HALT!...
OU-O-ING!
OW-OUTCH!
BOOM!
BWOING
GRABBING THE ATTACHED AMPLIFIER CABLE... ROBIN RETALIATES!...
UGH-H-- HOW...?!
LIKE... POW! YOU'RE ALL STRUNG-OUT-- "GIT"-HAPPY!
TEARING OFF THE SHATTERED TOM-TOM, THE CAPEID CRU-SADER DRUMS OUT BIG SQUAT... TRYING TO BEAT A HASTY RETREAT...
TRY THIS TUNE ON YOUR BULL-FIDDLE... BASS-BUM!
ZUNG!
CRASHING INTO HIS INSTRUMENT IN A THUNDEROUS TANGLE OF PLUCKED BASS, BIG SQUAT LIES HELPLESS IN A SHOWER OF STOLEN LOOT...
KRASH
HAVE NO "RESERVATIONS" ABOUT YOUR SITTIN' OUT THIS WAR-DANCE... CHIEF SITTIN' IN!

AND WHEN THE POLICE COMMISSIONER APPEARS ON THE SCENE...
THE ORPHANS' CHARITY-FUND MONEY! THEN THIS COMBO, POSING AS HIPPIES, DID PULL THE JOB! BUT HOW...? DURING THE BALL, THEY NEVER LEFT THE BANDSTAND...
THEY DIDN'T! AT LEAST... NOT TO THE EYES OF THE UN-CONCERNED DANCERS! LOOK!
AS ROBIN STARTS TO INFLATE THE MYSTERIOUS SHAPE...
USING THIS... CONCEALED IN HIS BULL-FIDDLE... BIG SQUAT BLEW IT UP DURING A DANCE BREAK...AND THEN, AT THE NEXT NUMBER--
SNEAKED AWAY TO ROB THE BALLROOM SAFE! AND RETURNED... WITH NO ONE THE WISER!
NOW WATCH AS I PROP THAT FIDDLE UP AGAINST THE WALL AND SWITCH ON THE PSYCHEDELIC STROBE-LIGHTS...
PRECISELY! AND UNDER THIS BEWILDERING DISPLAY OF HALLUCIGENIC LIGHTING... WHO COULD DETECT THE DIFFERENCE?
A... PLASTIC DOUBLE OF BIG SQUAT!
BUT... WHO FILLED IN FOR... HIS BASS-- PLAYING? THE OTHER TWO WERE BUSY...

WHO?... IT'S PERFECTLY OBVIOUS, COMMISSIONER! THIS WAS AN ELECTRONICALLY-AMPLIFIED COMBO...
AND, AS THE BOY WONDER THROWS A SWITCH...
...THEY PRE-RECORDED HIS BASS ACCOMPANIMENT ON THEIR TAPE-RECORDER... AND... PLAYED IT BACK IN HIS BRIEF ABSENCE!
THRUM-THRUM! THUMP, THUMP!
PRETTY BRILLIANT SCHEME... TOO BRILLIANT FOR THIS TRIO TO HAVE PLANNED! WHICH MEANS THE "MASTER-BRAIN" BEHIND THIS OVERLOOKED ONE SMALL DETAIL!
...THE "HUMAN" ELEMENT! HE FORGOT THEIR PERSONAL MESSY HABITS! GUESS THIS IS "CUSTER'S LAST STAND"!... LAST STAND!
CUSTER'S LAST STAND
BUT IS IT? THE PLANNER IS LIKELY TO TAKE THIS DEFEAT... REAL PERSONAL!
AFTER A REFRESHING PAUSE, THE STORY CONTINUES ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING!

SEPTEMBER, 1968

Welcome Wagon

Model of the Month
1957 Chevrolet Nomad

Car buffs across the nation are searching for this eleven year old car. They rejoice when they find one in good condition. The '57 Nomad station wagon is on its way to becoming a classic, and demand far exceeds the supply. Nomad was the first station wagon with passenger car styling and features. It set new standards that are being followed today . . . and it's still considered a cool piece of machinery. Revell's new Nomad model kit has doors, windows and tailgate that open and close. Wheels roll and front wheels turn. Front and rear can be adjusted to three different heights . . . just like they modify the real Nomad. Fun to build, for less than $2.00.

For a catalog of 250 Revell models, send 25¢ to: Revell, Inc., 4270 Glencoe Ave., Venice, California 90291.

Revell

Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BAT-CAVE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Editor: Upon looking at the cover of **Batman** 202, I immediately thought that this was going to be another sure-fire scheme for some cunning felon to put away our cowled hero for good! (As if they **all** don't try!) Of course, I had the whole thing wrong but that's my lowly skull for you.

The cover-illustrated story, "Gateway to Death," was just fair. I say this because of a loophole that marred it. I just can't grasp the idea that Alfred would suffer a mental breakdown just because he was going to tell the mysterious robber's name to **Batman.** Sure, the **Psychic Plunderer** saved his life, but – like the butler said – it was for his own good and he would probably be helped. Yes, it was a tough decision to make and there was probably a lot of internal turmoil, but to be confined to bed for that reason. . . . **Nah!**

The author of this yarn was John Broome because of the human interest angle (strangely overdone) and the lack of puns.

Next we move to the **Robin** solo. "Menace of the Motorcycle Marauders" was also just fair. For one thing, there was too much action and not enough plot. As a matter of fact, the closest thing to plot I found was wondering if Dick would make it back to school in time for his speech.

You know something? Figuring out authors of stories really isn't much fun now. The fad should soon be dying out because it's getting too easy. The author of this one was Gardner Fox because he did the other **Robin** solos and because of the array of puns that were spurted by **Robin.** (Now I bet both my writer deductions are wrong!) – **Joe Rusnak, Montville, N.J.**

(You hit the **Daily Double** *– wrong on both accounts! Gardner Fox did the cover story; Mike Friedrich the* **Robin** *yarn! As you indicated, the author-guessing fad has run its course; from now on we're giving author (and artists) credit along with each story. – Ed)*

* * * * * * * * * *

Dear Editor: Congrats! **Batman** 202 was a really solid issue. Solid? Yep, solid is the best way to describe a mag that balances the scale of good art and story.

Concentrating on the story-content, both were well-written and thoroughly enjoyable. "Gateway to Death" contained some of the elements we mystery fans have been clamoring for, and the tie-in with Alfred proves once again what a vital and integral part he plays in the lives of **Batman** and **Robin.**

"Menace of the Motorcycle Marauders" was also good, and this is surprising to me, for solo **Robin** adventures usually turned me off (for the simple reason that they were obviously meant for the younger readers.) However, the idea which made the story was the insight (at last!) into the personal life of Dick Grayson, whom ye editor is forgetting is a teenager like the rest of us. The ending was symbolic of a new image for Dick that I'd like to see – a small sense of sorrow that his crime-fighting is cutting into his social life. – **Dennis Palumbo, Pittsburgh, Pa.**

(The wind-up of the **Robin** *tale wound up quite a few readers – so let's unreel a couple more reactions. – Ed.)*

* * * * * * * * *

Dear Editor: Well, there was a lot of **biff-pow-zock** to **Batman** 202, but except for two panels in the second story, it could very easily be read and completely forgotten by even the most enthusiastic of **Batman** fans.

Those two panels. . . . the last panels of Mike Friedrich's **Robin** story (which, if it doesn't live in history for these panels, will doubtless be famous simply because it was the first story Mike ever sold to the comics). This small scene is surely the most tragic ever written about boy crime-fighters. As a young kid full of desire for revenge and excitement, **Robin** got trapped into the same self-sacrificing life that **Batman** chose deliberately, knowing exactly what is entailed. Now, he is faced with the need for sacrifice – a sacrifice to **Batman's** awesomely austere dedication. He'll follow his leader to the death, of course, but has **Batman** the right to ask so much of him? – **Irene Vartanoff, Lake Forest, Ill.**

Dear Editor: What disturbed me most about the **Robin** story was the ending. Here was a fellow who had taken the most exquisite pains ever devised by misanthropic minds (boy, these camp stories must be affecting my mind) crying like a baby over losing a school election. I realize that you wanted us to see how disappointed Dick was, but I never thought that you would dare insult the male sex in such objectionable manner. For Shame! – **Lee Salem, Brooklyn, N.Y.**

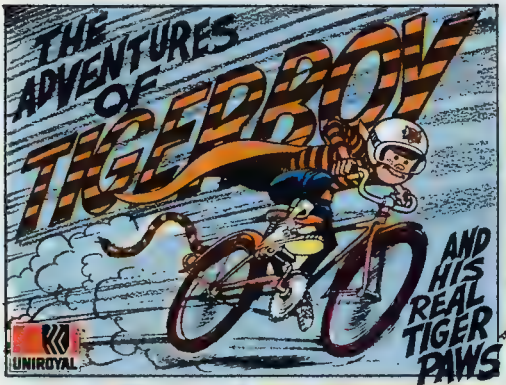
* * * * * * * * * *

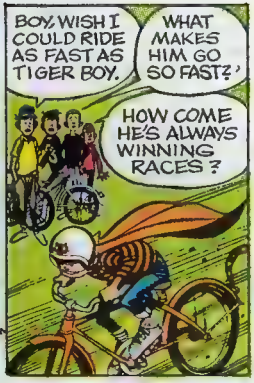
Dear Editor: You turned out a real winner in **Batman** 202. Both stories, as well as the cover, were masterpieces. It seems you are trying to make amends with those tried-and-true fans who stuck with you during the camp era.

Gardner Fox really gave us a humdinger of a tale in "Gateway to Death." Ah, this is **Batman** at his best! Fighting crooks with no far-out costumes or powers, but with a few brains and talents within the realm of human capabilities! Using logical (and useful) utility belts gimmicks instead of **Bat**-springs, **Bat**-analyzers, and a lot of other **Bat**-junk. The battle-problem situation is one at which Fox excels, and the fact that **B&R** got hit to force their mouths open, and didn't trip or run into each other added realism. I'm also glad that it wasn't revealed whether or not Norman actually possessed "mind over matter" powers. Although it was hinted at that he did not, at least **B&R** didn't go into a long speech about how the villain really committed those robberies. – **V.O. Speights, Nineveh, Texas**

THE NEXT NIGHT, THE GOTHAM GRAND BALLROOM IS HOST TO A TESTIMONIAL DINNER...
...NO OTHER CITY CAN CLAIM... INDEED... BOAST OF THE DISTINCTION OF HAVING AS ITS CHAMPIONS OF LAW AND ORDER, THAT POWERFUL PAIR--
--OF PHONIES! BOTH OF THEM!!
AND AS THE DISTINGUISHED ASSEMBLAGE TURNS IN SHOCKED SURPRISE...
YE-AH... YOU HEARD ME RIGHT! A COUPLE OF... PARASITIC CREEPS!
GUARDS! THROW THAT MAN--
NO, COMMISSIONER! WE'VE ALL FOUGHT TO PRESERVE FREE SPEECH! HEAR HIM OUT!
ALRIGHT, YOU MAY SPEAK! BUT, I WARN YOU...IF YOU COMMIT PUBLIC SLANDER OF THESE UNREWARDED PUBLIC-MINDED...
UNREWARDED..?! THESE WITLESS JOKERS COP ALL THE GLORY... ACCLAIM... WHILE FEEDING LIKE SHARKS ON MY BRAINS?! UNREWARDED... PAH!
CLICK!

STOP HURLING VAGUE GENERALITIES, MAN... PRECISELY WHAT ARE YOU CLAIMING?
THAT EVERY TIME YOUR BRILLIANT BUDDIES LEFT THE SCENE OF A CRIME TO CHECK THE CLUES AT THEIR SECRET BATCAVE...THEY STOPPED OFF FIRST AT MY CRIME-LAB! I SOLVED THESE UNSOLVABLE CRIMES FOR THEM!" BRAIN-FOR-HIRE" THEY HUMOROUSLY REFERRED TO ME...
HA! HA! A BITTER JOKE AT MY EXPENSE... EVEN THOUGH THEY PAID HANDSOMELY, THESE TWO MUST HAVE AT THEIR DISPOSAL... UNLIMITED FUNDS!
THAT LAST UNWITTING BARB...HAS STRUCK HOME! BATMAN SITS SHAKEN AND SPEECHLESS...
WHO IS HE? CAN HE POSSIBLY KNOW THAT I'M REALLY BRUCE WAYNE...MONIED PHILANTHROPIST?
THESE ARE SHOCKING...AND DASTARDLY... ACCUSATIONS! I SPEAK UP IN ANSWER, BATMAN... WE'RE ALL WITH YOU!
WITH A SENSITIVITY BORN OF LONG ASSOCIATION, ROBIN COVERS FOR HIS GUARDIAN...AND FRIEND!
I-I THINK THAT BATMAN... LIKE ANY HONEST, UPRIGHT CITIZEN...IS SHOCKED BEYOND WORDS BY THESE WILD, UNFOUNDED CLAIMS!
JUST WHO IS THIS UN-NAMED ACCUSER? WHAT IS HIS BACK-GROUND TO CLAIM SUCH CRIME-FIGHTING KNOWLEDGE..?
I'M NOT AFRAID TO TELL... EVEN IF YOU ARE! I'M E.G. NEVER... PRIVATE INSURANCE-CLAIM INVESTIGATOR! WITH A LONG HISTORY OF IN-THE-FIELD TRAINING IN CRIMINOLOGY!
CHECK WITH MY EMPLOYERS... IF YOU DARE! I'M FED UP WITH KEEPING MY BACK-GROUND...IN THE BACK-GROUND!
EVEN IF TRUE, MR. NEVER... IT DOES NOT PROVE ANY SUCH RELATION TO BATMAN, AS YOU CLAIM! JUST WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE?
A CHANCE TO PROVE I AM THE BRAINS BEHIND BATMAN! I PUBLICLY CHALLENGE HIM...TO A DUEL!
CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

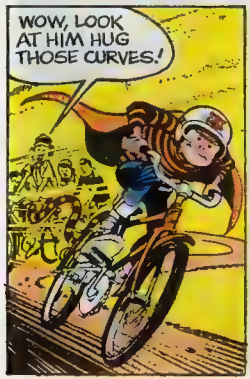

THE ADVENTURES OF TIGERBOY
AND HIS REAL TIGER PAWS
UNIROYAL


BOY, WISH I COULD RIDE AS FAST AS TIGER BOY.
WHAT MAKES HIM GO SO FAST?
HOW COME HE'S ALWAYS WINNING RACES?

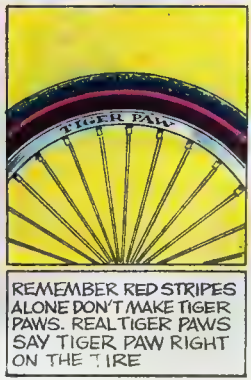
BETCHA IT'S THOSE TIGER PAW TIRES HE HAS ON HIS BIKE.
TIGER PAWS?
YOU KNOW, THE ONES WITH THE RED STRIPES.
HEY, THE MAN AT THE STORE SAYS HE'S GOT TIRES WITH RED STRIPES THAT ARE JUST AS GOOD AS TIGER PAWS.

LATER - AFTER THE GANG GETS RED STRIPE TIRES (BUT NOT TIGER PAWS).
HEH, HEH - TIGER BOY. WE'RE CHALLENGING YOU TO A RACE.
THIS TIME WE'LL BEAT YOU TIGER BOY.
I ACCEPT.

HEY, LOOK AT HIM GO!
FASTER! HE'S GETTING AWAY FROM US! FASTER!

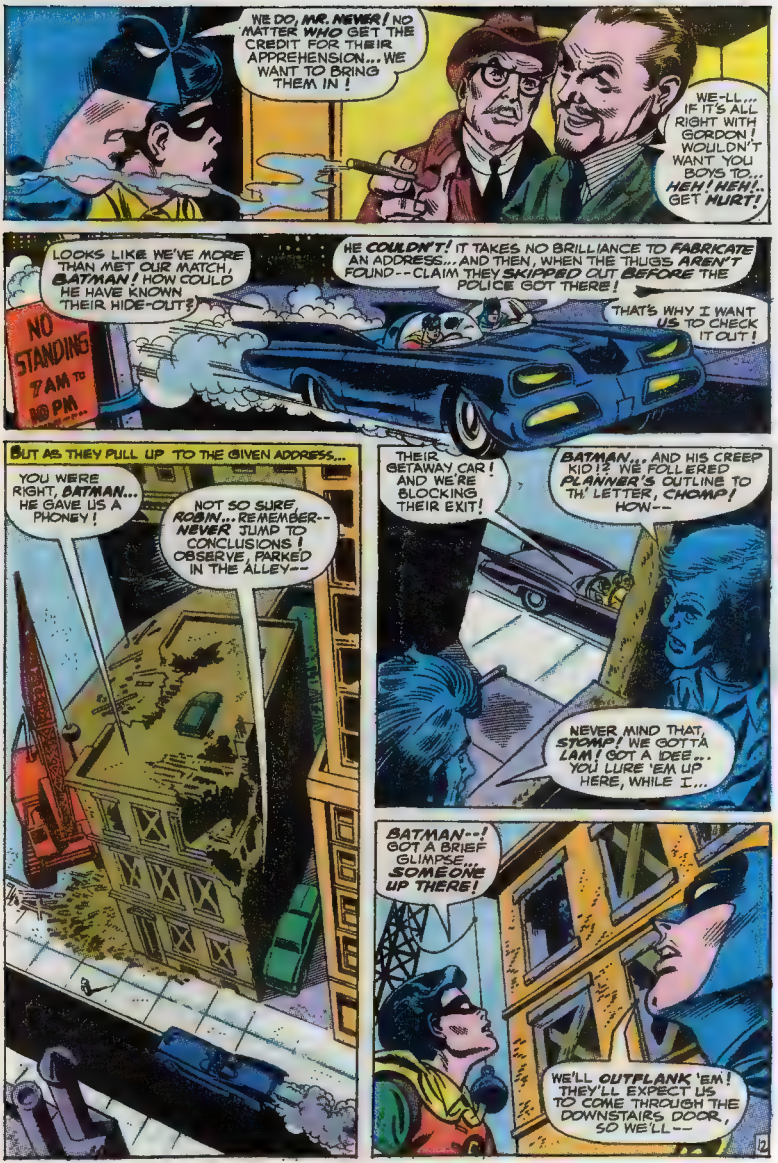

WOW, LOOK AT HIM HUG THOSE CURVES!

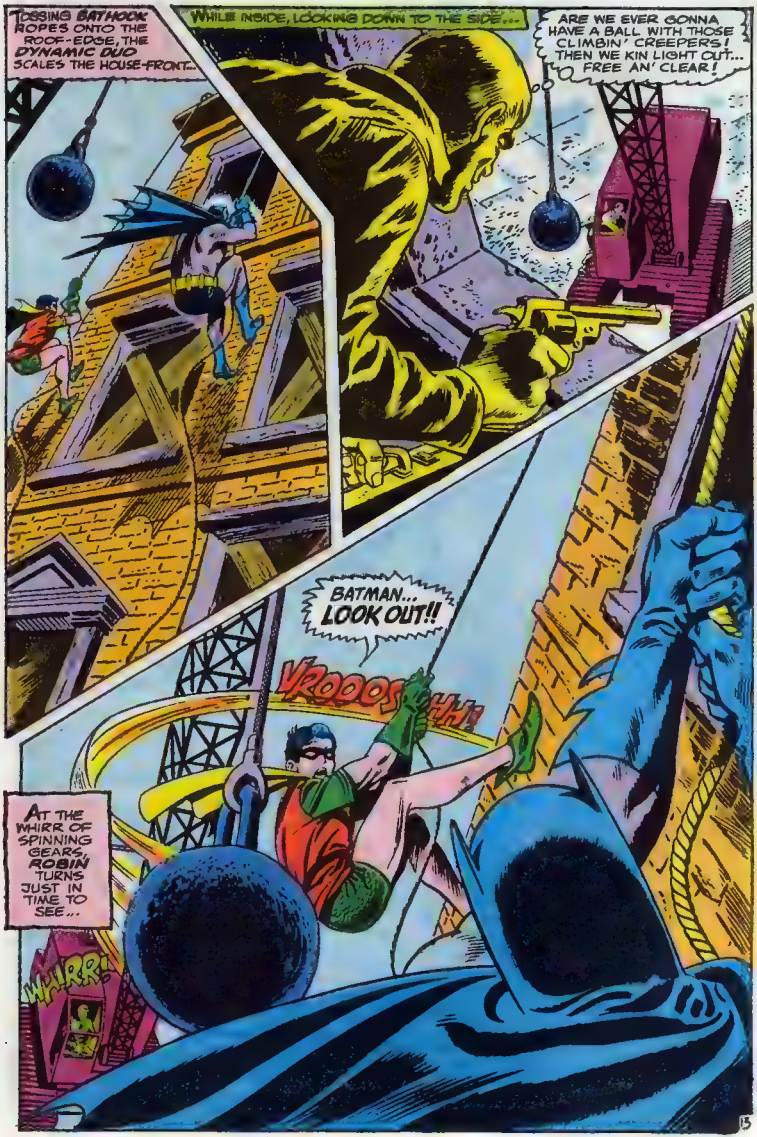
AH GEE, LOST AGAIN!
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT. WE HAD RED STRIPE TIRES TOO.

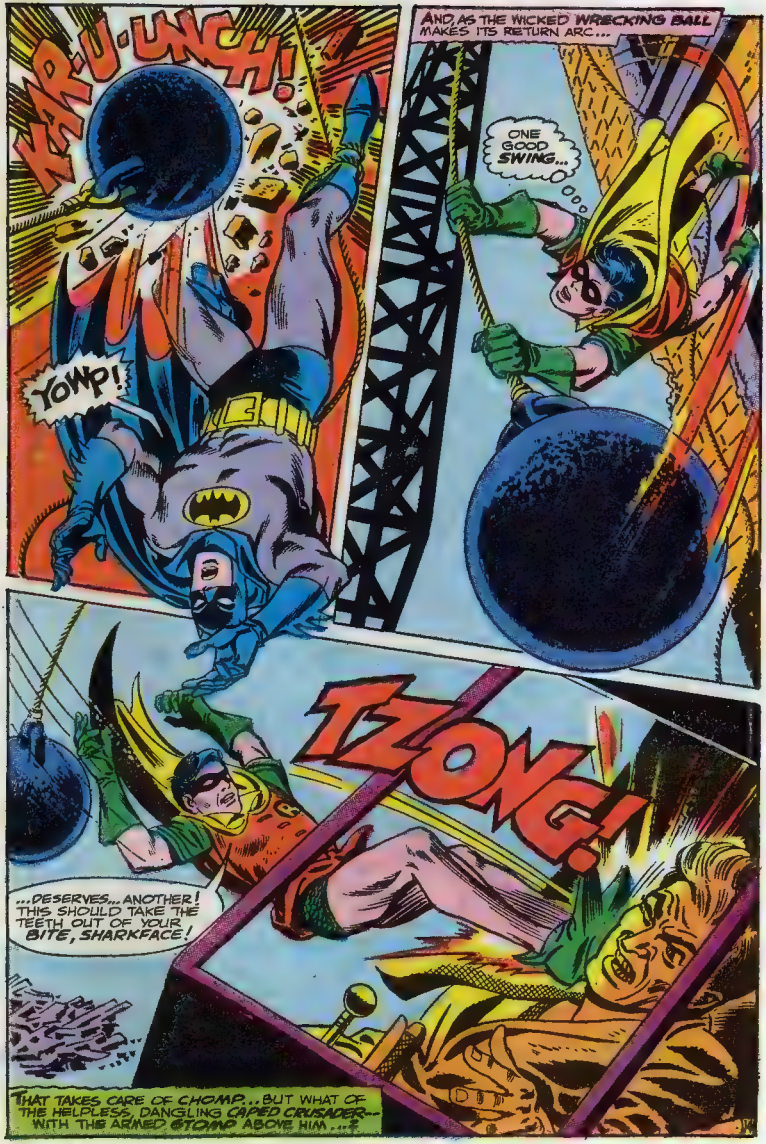

TIGER PAW
REMEMBER RED STRIPES ALONE DON'T MAKE TIGER PAWS. REAL TIGER PAWS SAY TIGER PAW RIGHT ON THE TIRE

A DUEL...OF WITS, COMMISSIONER! PUT BATMAN AND ME ON THE NEXT BIG CASE...SEE IF HE CAN PERFORM WITHOUT USING MY BRAIN!
LET BATMAN HAVE FIRST CRACK AT ANY CLUES! IF HE CAN'T SOLVE 'EM... TURN THE CASE OVER TO ME!
SOUNDS FAIR ENOUGH, BATMAN! I CAN TAKE YOUR SILENCE...AS ACCEPTANCE?
MIDNIGHT...AT THE AUTO-GRAVEYARD WHERE THE PLANNER HOLDS COURT...
CHOMP AND STOMP--I'VE SUMMONED YOU TWO FROM OUT-OF-TOWN FOR A VERY SPECIAL JOB! YOUR METHOD OF OPERATION IS NOT KNOWN HERE IN GOTHAM...AND IF YOU FOLLOW MY PLAN PRECISELY...
GOTHAM AUTO WRECKING
WE DON'T AIM TO GET CAUGHT! YOU CALL IT... WE PLAY IT--YOUR WAY!
I GIVE YOU THE DETAILS OF THE HEIST...THE PROCEDURE...AND WHERE TO MEET ME TO SPLIT THE TAKE! BUT, HEAR THIS... NO CLUES LEFT AT THE SCENE!
AND AFTER THE THUGS LEAVE...
HOW CAN I LOSE AGAINST BATMAN... WHEN I PLAN THE CRIMES! HE GETS "SHOT DOWN"... AND I CALL THE SHOTS!

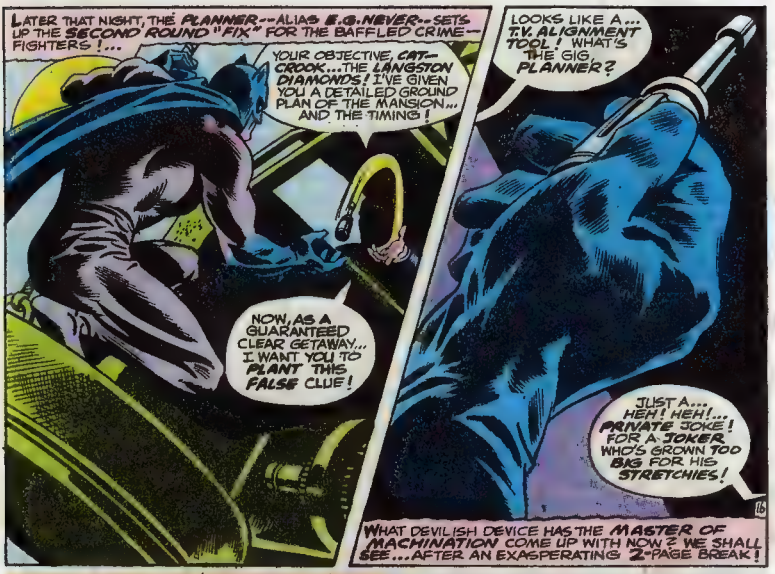
THE NEXT NIGHT... IN AN AFTER-HOURS CHECK-CASHING SERVICE...
...FIRST THIS CANNISTER COMES ROLLING INTO THE OFFICE... THEN PFH-POWIE!... IT EXPLODES! CH-CHOKING } GASP { GAS! WE ALL BLACKED OUT...
...AND WHEN YOU CAME TO-- ALL THE CASH WAS GONE! MM... NO EYEWITNESS-- IDENTIFICATION POSSIBLE... NO FINGERPRINTS... NO NOTHING!
CASHIER
CASHIER
LOOKS LIKE THE IDEAL SITUATION TO START THE BATMAN-NEVER DUEL!
AND, IN RESPONSE TO THE HURRY-CALL...
IT'S ALL YOURS, BAT-BRAIN... CLEAN IT UP FAST! I'M... } YAWN { LOSIN' SLEEP!
YOU COULD'VE SAVED YOURSELF THE TRIP, NEVER! WE'LL HAVE YOU BEDDY-BYE BEFORE YOUR NEXT YAWN!
CHECKS CASHED
A PREDICTION THAT WOULD PUT AN INSOMNIAC TO SLEEP... AS THE DYNAMIC DUO SLOWLY LOSES ITS COOL...
N-NOT A CLUE! WE'RE BEAT--IF MR. NEVER CAN SOLVE THIS!
THE FLOOR IS YOURS, BIG-BRAIN...
DON'T-- } YAWN { NEED IT, SMART SLEUTHS! SAW ALL I NEEDED... WHILE YOU TWO WERE KNOCKIN' YOUR BRAINS OUT!
FIRST... THE "TECHNIQUE" USED IS OBVIOUSLY THAT OF CHOMP AN' STOMP-- TWO GAS "COVER" SPECIALISTS!
SECOND... I CAN TELL YOU WHERE THEY'RE HOLING UP--
Y-YOU... CAN? W-WHAT GAVE YOU THE CLUE...?
UH-UH, COMMISH... SECRETS LIKE THAT... COME HIGHER THAN YOU CAN AFFORD TO PAY! NOW... DO YOU WANT THE ADDRESS?


WE DO, MR. NEVER! NO MATTER WHO GET THE CREDIT FOR THEIR APPREHENSION... WE WANT TO BRING THEM IN!
WE-LL... IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH GORDON! WOULDN'T WANT YOU BOYS TO... HEH! HEH!.. GET HURT!
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE MORE THAN MET OUR MATCH, BATMAN! HOW COULD HE HAVE KNOWN THEIR HIDE-OUT?
HE COULDN'T! IT TAKES NO BRILLIANCE TO FABRICATE AN ADDRESS... AND THEN, WHEN THE THUGS AREN'T FOUND--CLAIM THEY SKIPPED OUT BEFORE THE POLICE GOT THERE!
THAT'S WHY I WANT US TO CHECK IT OUT!
NO STANDING 7 AM TO 10 PM
BUT AS THEY PULL UP TO THE GIVEN ADDRESS...
YOU WERE RIGHT, BATMAN... HE GAVE US A PHONEY!
NOT SO SURE, ROBIN... REMEMBER-- NEVER JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS! OBSERVE, PARKED IN THE ALLEY--
THEIR GETAWAY CAR! AND WE'RE BLOCKING THEIR EXIT!
BATMAN... AND HIS CREEP KID!? WE FOLLERED PLANNER'S OUTLINE TO TH' LETTER, CHOMP! HOW--
NEVER MIND THAT, STOMP! WE GOTTA LAM! GOT A IDEE... YOU LURE 'EM UP HERE, WHILE I...
BATMAN--! GOT A BRIEF GLIMPSE... SOMEONE UP THERE!
WE'LL OUTFLANK 'EM! THEY'LL EXPECT US TO COME THROUGH THE DOWNSTAIRS DOOR, SO WE'LL--
12


TOSSING BATHOOK ROPES ONTO THE ROOF-EDGE, THE DYNAMIC DUO SCALES THE HOUSE-FRONT...
WHILE INSIDE, LOOKING DOWN TO THE SIDE...
ARE WE EVER GONNA HAVE A BALL WITH THOSE CLIMBIN' CREEPERS! THEN WE KIN LIGHT OUT... FREE AN' CLEAR!
BATMAN... LOOK OUT!!
VROOOSHH!
AT THE WHIRR OF SPINNING GEARS, ROBIN TURNS JUST IN TIME TO SEE...
WHIRR!


KAR-U-UACH!
YOWP!
AND, AS THE WICKED WRECKING BALL MAKES ITS RETURN ARC...
ONE GOOD SWING...
IZONG!
...DESERVES... ANOTHER! THIS SHOULD TAKE THE TEETH OUT OF YOUR BITE, SHARKFACE!
THAT TAKES CARE OF CHOMP... BUT WHAT OF THE HELPLESS, DANGLING CAPED CRUSADER-- WITH THE ARMED STOMP ABOVE HIM...?

BATMAN IS REALLY HUNG UP IN A BIND... WITH NO AID IN SIGHT!...
Y'RE ON THE LOSING END THIS TIME, BATMAN! BYE-BYE... SWINGER!
BUT ANOTHER SWINGER MAKES A RETURN TRIP... GYRATING WILDLY...
WHAM!
CARE FOR A RAINCHECK? YOU'RE OUT OF THE BALLGAME!
LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
THEN... G.G. NEVER CALLED THE SCORE RIGHT, BATMAN?
AFRAID SO, COMMISSIONER... HE'S WON THE FIRST ROUND!
BUT THERE'S STILL A SECOND ROUND COMING UP! WE'LL BE WAITING!
NOW I'VE GOT BATMAN HOOKED! ON THE NEXT CAGE... HE'LL BITE AT ANY CLUE!


LATER THAT NIGHT, THE PLANNER--ALIAS E.G. NEVER--SETS UP THE SECOND ROUND "FIX" FOR THE BAFFLED CRIME-FIGHTERS!...
YOUR OBJECTIVE, CAT-CROOK...THE LANGSTON DIAMONDS! I'VE GIVEN YOU A DETAILED GROUND PLAN OF THE MANSION... AND THE TIMING!
NOW, AS A GUARANTEED CLEAR GETAWAY... I WANT YOU TO PLANT THIS FALSE CLUE!
LOOKS LIKE A... T.V. ALIGNMENT TOOL! WHAT'S THE GIG, PLANNER?
JUST A... HEH! HEH!... PRIVATE JOKE! FOR A JOKER WHO'S GROWN TOO BIG FOR HIS STRETCHIES!
WHAT DEVILISH DEVICE HAS THE MASTER OF MACHINATION COME UP WITH NOW? WE SHALL SEE...AFTER AN EXASPERATING 2-PAGE BREAK!

DC
BROTHER POWER THE
GEEK
DEC. NO. 2
12¢
HERE IS THE BEGINNING... NOW IT GETS EXCITING! AFTER "A VISIT FROM THE DEEP!"
THING THAT LIVES and FIGHTS for its SOUL

A MAGAZINE ABOUT TODAY
MAKE THE SCENE WITH
THE GEEK
HE'S COMING YOUR WAY!!
ON SALE SEPT. 5TH

LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE--EXTRA

Dear Editor:

Holy girl problems, golly gee! Why, may I ask you, doesn't the *Boy Wonder* have a chick? The poor guy has to live such a boring life with dead old Aunt Harriet and trustworthy Alfred the butler and, of course, Bruce Wayne himself (obviously, this is when he isn't in his *Robin* getup and isn't fighting crime). Gee gosh, if I had to lead a life like that I'd go off my nut! So have a heart and give master Richard Grayson a love. I and other fans would like it very much to see the *Boy Wonder* kiss a girl and not back off and show embarrassment. Let him enjoy it! In the old mags, at least, you would give him an occasional girl friend–but not any more! What's the matter—are you too tight with your girls or does *Bat*-guy get 'em all?!?

—*Rick Marsh, Denver, Colo.*

(And yet other readers have yokingly told us that stories depicting young *Robin* with a chick would lay an egg!—*Editor*)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

Although your *Batman* stories are good, I think you show the *Caped Crusader* as being too unbeatable. In my opinion, *Batman* should have a limit to his powers. Give *Batman* and *Robin* real mysteries to solve and for Pete's sake, without any of those intolerable utility belt gadgets. Have *Batman* battle a foe that would be a match—or more than match—for him; both physically and mentally.

No, I'm not through yet. I recommend that you have a *Batman* story continued in a follow-up issue. *Robin* should be "in" on more of the adventures—and should also have a girl friend. I hope you will consider doing some of the things I have recommended.

—*Ida Taylor, Salisbury, N.C.*

(As openers, how about the two-parter--a *Batman* first!— we dealt you in issues 204—205?—*Editor*)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

I've been a *Batman* fan for twenty years. After two decades, I have a complaint and an urgent plea.

Please—PLEASE—give *Batman* back his old looks. He used to look like Robert Goulet; now he looks too much like *Superman*. I liked *Batman's* eyes and chin so much that I married a man with the very same eyes and chin.

So I beg of you—plead with you. Give *Batman* back his Robert Goulet eyes and chin!

—*Donna R.M., Waterloo, Iowa.*

(And if we gave *Batman* Robert Goulet's eyes and chin —where would that leave Mr. Goulet—to say nothing of Carol Lawrence?—*Editor*)

* * * * * *

Dear Editor:

In the "New Look" *Batman* you have presented us with several types of stories: excellent, good, bad, and pass-me-the-aspirin-please. The last category is composed of "camp" stories, so I won't dwell on them (with the hopeful expectation that "camp" is now out). The "uncamp" stories are the basis for this contribution to your worthwhile EXTRA department.

Excellent: stories with human villains, human plot, human situations. Let's have more vill—no, not villains, but crooks. Ordinarily, I expect to see wild, wacky, just barely believable, super-powered villains. In *Batman* it's different. Maybe I've been spoiled, but I feel that there must be more of the likes of Doc Hastings, Ira Radon, Johnny Witts, Matt Whitson, even the unknown criminal in "Batman's Baffling Turnabout." The only thing wrong with these crooks is that they are one-time villains (with the exception of Johnny Witts). The only two costumed villains I place in this category are *Two-Face* and the *Joker*. The former because he seems to be the only man who can really "strike fear into *Batman*" (take that *Scarecrow*—and *that*—and THAT!), the *Joker* because of the intense hatred each has for the other. The *Hooded Hangman* was also good, but only merited one appearance.

Good: Riddler, Penguin, Catwoman, etc., *etc.*, ETC.! I think I've made my point. They're all too unbelievable (I'll not accept the fact that half the people of *Gotham City* are raving lunatics, which these must be). However, look into their private lives and origins with a little more depth, and they could just climb up a notch or two.

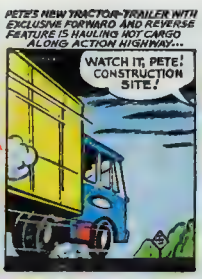
Bad: Scarecrow is the only "uncamp" villain here. His "fear chemicals" are utterly unbelievable, and they only accomplish what *Two-Face, Joker,* and *Blockbuster* do without any type of science-fiction gadgets.

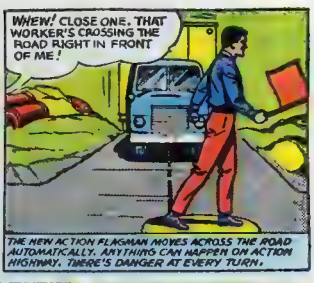
Blockbuster! How could I have left out one of the most interesting characters in comics! The only thing I dislike about him is the way he always seems to be back to "normal" at the end of each of his adventures. I hope you bring him back soon—and this time get him involved with *Two-Face*. They're made for each other! This time, I hope the *Titanic Throwback* is given a full-length novel to develop and display not only hate, but also other primitive emotions, such as fear of fire, blind obediance to people he believes to be his friends, wolfing down his food, etc. At the end of his next adventure, have him still undecided as to whether *Batman* is his friend, whether he wants to try and adapt to his life, or to try and destroy those who are only trying to help.

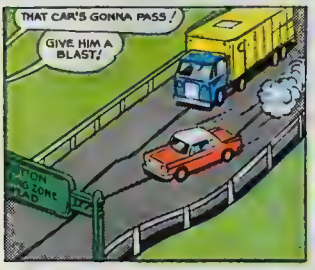
I started off this letter about *stories* and wind up talking about *villains*. This means I think that a story is good only if the hero and villain are *both* good.

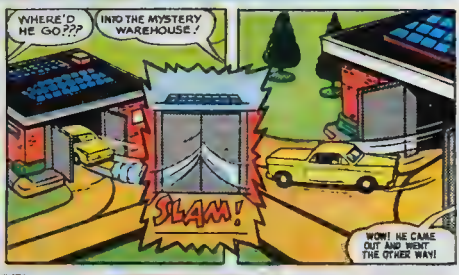
—*V.O. Speights, Nineveh, Tex.*

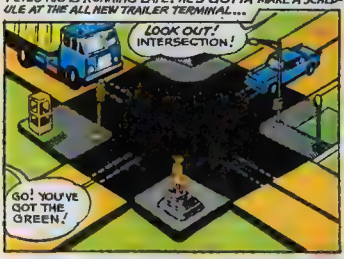
Address communications to LETTERS TO THE BATCAVE-EXTRA, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y., 10022.

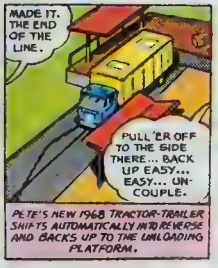

PETE'S NEW TRACTOR-TRAILER WITH EXCLUSIVE FORWARD AND REVERSE FEATURE IS HAULING HOT CARGO ALONG ACTION HIGHWAY...
WATCH IT, PETE! CONSTRUCTION SITE!

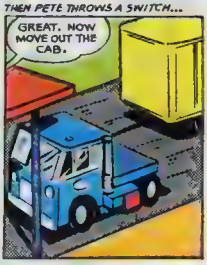

WHEW! CLOSE ONE. THAT WORKER'S CROSSING THE ROAD RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!
THE NEW ACTION FLAGMAN MOVES ACROSS THE ROAD AUTOMATICALLY. ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN ON ACTION HIGHWAY. THERE'S DANGER AT EVERY TURN.






PETE'S RIG IS RUNNING LATE. HE'S GOTTA MAKE A SCHEDULE AT THE ALL NEW TRAILER TERMINAL...
LOOK OUT! INTERSECTION!
GO! YOU'VE GOT THE GREEN!


MADE IT. THE END OF THE LINE.
PULL 'ER OFF TO THE SIDE THERE... BACK UP EASY... EASY... UNCOUPLE.
PETE'S NEW 1968 TRACTOR-TRAILER SWITCHES AUTOMATICALLY IN REVERSE AND BACKS UP TO THE UNLOADING PLATFORM.



GET ALL THE ACTION ON ACTION HIGHWAY for 1968.

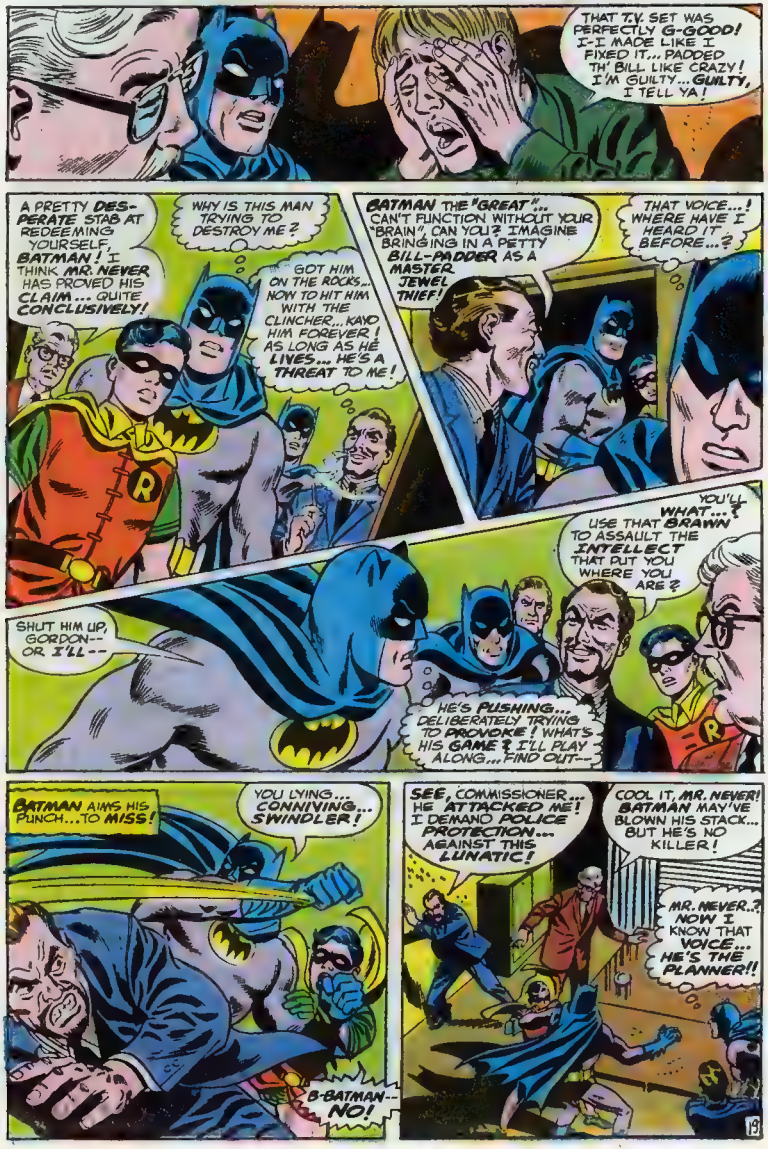
GET THE NEW CONSTRUCTION SITE WITH THE ACTION FLAGMAN, PASSING ZONE, MYSTERY WAREHOUSE, INTERSECTION, AUTOMATIC TRAILER TERMINAL, AND RUGGED TWO-WAY TRACTOR-TRAILER.

MOTORIFIC...IT'S TERRIFIC!

IT'S IDEAL

THE FOLLOWING NIGHT... THE LANGSTON MANSION...
ACCORDING TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S CALL, BATMAN... SOUNDS LIKE ANOTHER CAT-CROOK CAPER!
YEP, ROBIN... ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! ESPECIALLY SINCE WE GET FIRST CRACK AT TRACKING HIM DOWN!
IT'S ALL YOURS, GENTLEMEN! LOOKS LIKE A CLEAN... PRO... CAPER! WITH A HALF-MILLION IN DIAMONDS NEATLY LIFTED!
DETERMINED NOT TO BE OUTCLASSED BY THE SMUG MASTER OF MAYHEM, THE DYNAMIC DUO OF DETECTION FEVERISHLY STARTS ITS HUNT...
TAKE YOUR TIME... I DID ALL MY SLEEPING THIS AFTERNOON! DO A REAL CAREFUL JOB... YOU CAN'T AFFORD ANOTHER GOOF!
AFTER AN EXHAUSTING SEARCH FOR CLUES... SUDDENLY!...
BATMAN... LOOK HERE..!
HMMN... A T.V. ALIGNMENT TOOL! MUST'VE ROLLED UNDER THAT CLOCK BASE...
I WAS RIGHT! KNEW THAT "CAT-CROOK THEORY" WAS TOO PAT... TOO SIMPLE! C'MON, ROBIN... WE'VE GOT A STRONG LEAD THIS TIME!
YEAH! MOCKED... AND PRACTICALLY LANDED!

WHY YES, SIR... HE CAME THIS AFTERNOON TO REPAIR THE T.V.! SAID HE'D RECEIVED A CALL... THE MADAM WAS OUT, SO I GUESSED SHE'D CALLED!
YOU... GUESSED? THEN YOU CAN'T BE SURE THAT SOMEONE PHONED FROM HERE!
AN OLD DEVICE TO ENTER AND... CASE THE JOINT! BUT AT LEAST HE LEFT HIS... CALLING CARD!
ON THE SPOT REPAIRS... CALL: A.N. TENNA 43 ARBOR DRIVE
OH, HE IS... IS HE? AND I SUPPOSE YOU FOUND THE EVIDENCE ON HIM?
HERE'S YOUR MAN, COMMISSIONER!
SHORTLY... AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
A QUICK DRIVE LATER...
B-BATMAN..?! OH-H... W-WHAT MISTAKE DID I MAKE? Y-YOU'VE CAUGHT ME..! I--I'M--S-GUILTY!
THAT OLD INSTINCT NEVER LEAVES ME, EH, ROBIN! WE'VE GOT HIM... DEAD TO RIGHTS!
B-BATMAN...! HE'S TAKING THE STOLEN JEWELS OUT OF HIS DRAWER!
GOOD GRIEF, ROBIN! IN OUR HASTE, WE FORGOT THAT ONE ESSENTIAL DETAIL...
AND... MUCH MORE! ACTING ON THE BRILLIANT DETECTION OF MR. NEVER... WE'VE ALREADY APPREHENDED THE REAL CRIMINAL!
SEND THE CULPRIT IN...
TH-THE CAT-CROOK!?
MR. TENNA... JUST WHAT "CRIME" DID YOU COMMIT?


THAT T.V. SET WAS PERFECTLY G-GOOD! I-I MADE LIKE I FIXED IT... PADDED TH' BILL LIKE CRAZY! I'M GUILTY... GUILTY, I TELL YA!
A PRETTY DESPERATE STAB AT REDEEMING YOURSELF, BATMAN! I THINK MR. NEVER HAS PROVED HIS CLAIM... QUITE CONCLUSIVELY!
WHY IS THIS MAN TRYING TO DESTROY ME?
GOT HIM ON THE ROCKS... NOW TO HIT HIM WITH THE CLINCHER... KAYO HIM FOREVER! AS LONG AS HE LIVES... HE'S A THREAT TO ME!
BATMAN THE "GREAT"... CAN'T FUNCTION WITHOUT YOUR "BRAIN", CAN YOU? IMAGINE BRINGING IN A PETTY BILL-PADDER AS A MASTER JEWEL THIEF!
THAT VOICE...! WHERE HAVE I HEARD IT BEFORE...?
YOU'LL WHAT...? USE THAT BRAWN TO ASSAULT THE INTELLECT THAT PUT YOU WHERE YOU ARE?
SHUT HIM UP, GORDON-- OR I'LL--
HE'S PUSHING... DELIBERATELY TRYING TO PROVOKE! WHAT'S HIS GAME? I'LL PLAY ALONG... FIND OUT--
BATMAN AIMS HIS PUNCH... TO MISS!
YOU LYING... CONNIVING... SWINDLER!
B-BATMAN-- NO!
SEE, COMMISSIONER... HE ATTACKED ME! I DEMAND POLICE PROTECTION... AGAINST THIS LUNATIC!
COOL IT, MR. NEVER! BATMAN MAY'VE BLOWN HIS STACK... BUT HE'S NO KILLER!
MR. NEVER..? NOW I KNOW THAT VOICE... HE'S THE PLANNER!!
19

BATMAN IS A FRAUD... AND WHO KNOWS WHAT ELSE? IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO ME, GORDON...
SO THAT'S THE FINK WHO TURNED ME IN! WHO ELSE KNEW I PULLED THE LANGSTON CAPER? HE'S GONNA PAY FOR THIS...BUT GOOD!
AND MOMENTS LATER...
STALLED LONG ENOUGH... SO THEY COULD TAIL ME!
WHAT EVER GOT INTO YOU, BATMAN..?
PLAYING THE GAME HE MADE UP.. TO HIS RULES, ROBIN! WE'RE GOING TO FOLLOW...AND SEE WHERE HE LEADS US! AND WHY...
WHILE INSIDE, A MAN BENT ON VENGEANCE ELBOWS HIS GUARD... AND...
HE FINDS A MEANS OF ESCAPE... READY AND WAITING!
PLANNER WILL BE HEADIN' FOR HIS ALTO GRAVE-YARD... I'LL BURY HIM THERE! WITH MY BARE HANDS!
KE-RASH!
SHORTLY... AS THE PLANNER--ALIAS E.G. NEVER--REACHES HIS DESTINATION...
MADE SURE THEY DIDN'T LOSE ME! NOW... I'LL DIG A DEEP GRAVE FOR THOSE BAT-WINGED FOOLS!
MUST BE HIS HQ, ROBIN! ONCE HE'S INSIDE... WE'LL SPLIT UP! GO IN ON FOOT...
I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO SEE IT--
YES, COMMISSIONER GORDON... I KILLED THEM! IN... SELF-DEFENSE! YOU SAW BATMAN THREATEN ME EARLIER!
20

AFTER MOMENTS OF TENSE... PATIENT... WAITING...
BATMAN! MUST'VE HAD ROBIN TAKE ANOTHER ROUTE! NO MATTER... ONE AT A TIME! DIE... NEMESIS!
AND IN TWO DIFFERENT SECTORS OF THE WRECKING YARD... AS THE SHOT BLASTS THE NIGHT...
R-ROBIN?
B-BATMAN...?!
KRAK!
AS THE CAPED CRUSADER REACHES THE CRIME-SCENE FIRST...
THE CAT-CROOK...?! UNARMED... GUNNED DOWN IN COLD BLOOD!
CLICK-CLICK!
I... GOOFED! BUT I WON'T NOW..! DIE, BAT--GUN'S JAMMED!?
THERE'S ANOTHER WAY...
SOMEONE LEFT THE ELECTROMAGNETIC CURRENT ON! ALL I HAVE TO DO... IS SWITCH IT OFF, AND...
BUT EVEN AS THE DEADLY CAR-CORPSE HURTLES DOWN... FROM OUT OF NOWHERE...!
ZIP!
OUT FROM UNDER, BATMAN!

HIS WIND KNOCKED OUT, ROBIN LIES MOMENTARILY STUNNED... AS BATMAN FALLS INTO THE CAR-CRUSHER PIT AFTER STRIKING HIS HEAD AGAINST THE EDGE!...
HA! NOW I HAVE THEM!... FIRST I'LL CRUSH THE CAPED CRUSADER INTO AN UNRECOGNIZABLE PULP--
ON
OFF
SEIZING A MASSIVE CONSTRUCTION BEAM, THE DESPERATE BOY WONDER WEDGES IT INTO THE NARROWING GAP, BUT...!
IT...BENT UP LIKE A GIANT PRETZEL! ONLY ONE... FAR-OUT... CHANCE LEFT!
AND AS THE PLANNER THROWS THE REMOTE-CONTROL LEVER...
GNRRR
PRRRRRR
RRR
NO TIME...TO GET BATMAN OUT! GOT TO STOP IT... SOMEHOW!
A FAR-OUT LONG-SHOT THAT... SCORES... AS ROBIN HURLS HIS BATARANG!
KA-YUNG!
AAR-KGH!
AND THROWS THE LEVER... JUST IN TIME!
PHEW! STOPPED THOSE... MANGLING-MOLARS!
GNRR-RR!
CONTINUED ON PAGE FOLLOWING.

THE MAGIC NUMBER IS 3!

3 STAR-STUDDED SPECTACULARS featuring

THE INITIATION OF THE TERRIFIC TRIO--

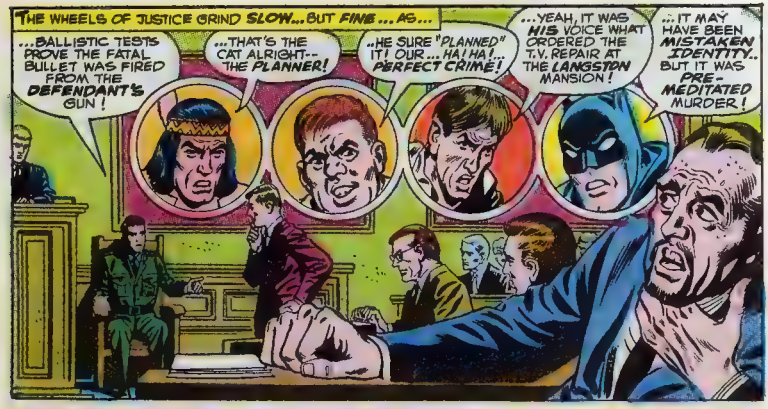
Green Arrow ★ The Atom ★ Hawkman--

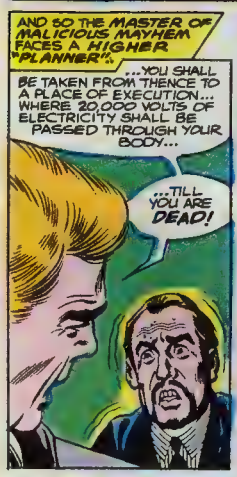
INTO THE JUSTICE LEAGUE!

ON SALE DC SEPT 24th

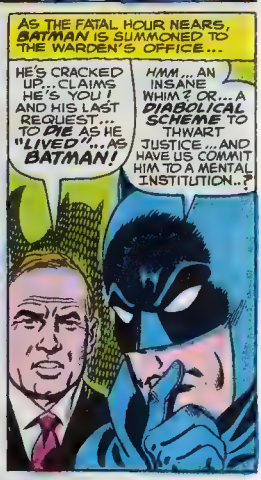
Super-Starring

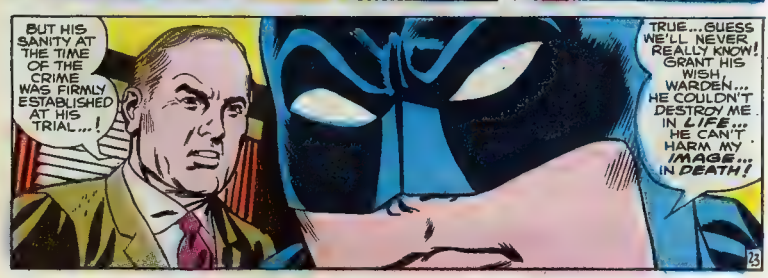
BATMAN
SUPERMAN
AQUAMAN
The FLASH
GREEN LANTERN
Wonder Woman
MARTIAN MANHUNTER


THE WHEELS OF JUSTICE GRIND SLOW... BUT FINE ... AS...
...BALLISTIC TESTS PROVE THE FATAL BULLET WAS FIRED FROM THE DEFENDANT'S GUN!
...THAT'S THE CAT ALRIGHT-- THE PLANNER!
..HE SURE "PLANNED" IT! OUR... HA! HA!... PERFECT CRIME!
...YEAH, IT WAS HIS VOICE WHAT ORDERED THE T.V. REPAIR AT THE LANGSTON MANSION!
.. IT MAY HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN IDENTITY.. BUT IT WAS PRE-MEDITATED MURDER!


AND SO THE MASTER OF MALICIOUS MAYHEM FACES A HIGHER "PLANNER"...
...YOU SHALL BE TAKEN FROM THENCE TO A PLACE OF EXECUTION... WHERE 20,000 VOLTS OF ELECTRICITY SHALL BE PASSED THROUGH YOUR BODY...
...TILL YOU ARE DEAD!

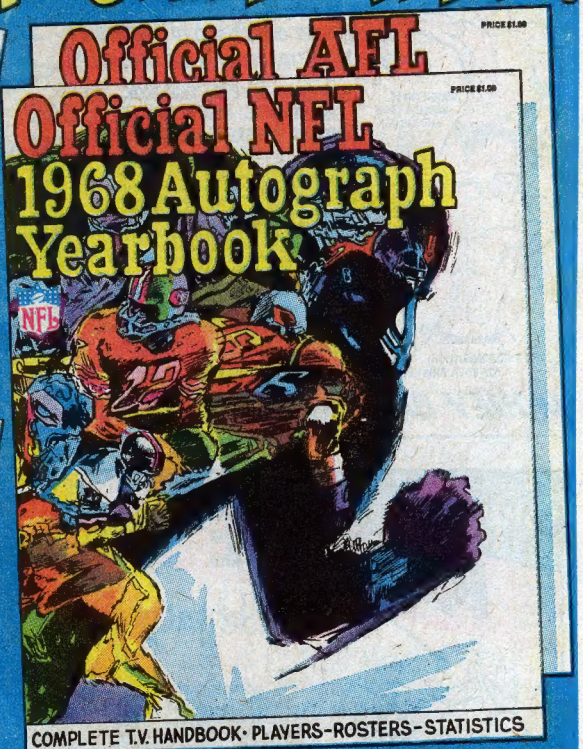
LATER... ON DEATH-ROW...
HE'S GONE OFF HIS ROCKER!
FOOLS! IDIOTS! CRETINS! I'M BATMAN'S "BRAIN"... I AM BATMAN!


AS THE FATAL HOUR NEARS, BATMAN IS SUMMONED TO THE WARDEN'S OFFICE...
HE'S CRACKED UP... CLAIMS HE'S YOU! AND HIS LAST REQUEST... TO DIE AS HE "LIVED"... AS BATMAN!
HMM... AN INSANE WHIM? OR... A DIABOLICAL SCHEME TO THWART JUSTICE... AND HAVE US COMMIT HIM TO A MENTAL INSTITUTION..?


BUT HIS SANITY AT THE TIME OF THE CRIME WAS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED AT HIS TRIAL...!
TRUE... GUESS WE'LL NEVER REALLY KNOW! GRANT HIS WISH WARDEN... HE COULDN'T DESTROY ME IN LIFE... HE CAN'T HARM MY IMAGE... IN DEATH!

AND SO THE CONDEMNED MAN'S LAST WISH IS FULFILLED AS HE COMPLETES THAT GRIM "LAST MILE" LEADING TO...
THE END

Hey, FOOTBALL FANS!



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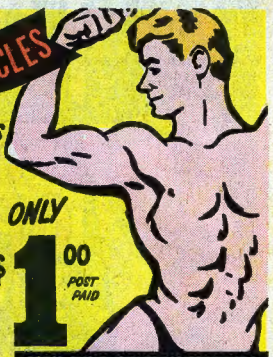

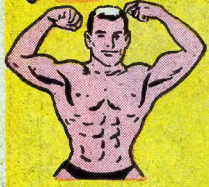

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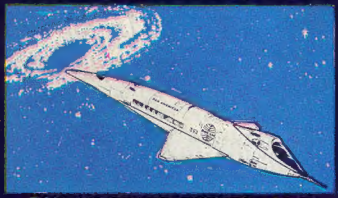

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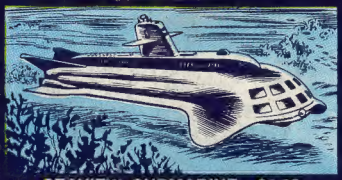

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